## NPDES COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT of RECONNAISSANCE Washington Beef and the Spencer Lateral Wapato, Idaho

(Unless otherwise noted, all details in this inspection report were obtained from conversations with Tyrone Pierre, Allen Frank or Elizabeth of the Wapato Irrigation Project or from observations during the walk through.)

**FACILITY:** 

Washington Beef and the Spencer Lateral

**OWNER:** 

Wapato Irrigation Project

**FACILITY CONTACT:** 

Tyrone Pierre

509-728-8129

509-877-3155

**DATE OF INSPECTION:** July 6, 2005

Arrival Time:

8:00 AM

Departure Time:

10:30 AM

**INSPECTOR:** 

Robert Grandinetti, Compliance Officer

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

NPDES Compliance Unit - Region 10

(509)376-3748

**PURPOSE:** 

Determine if the Spencer Lateral which Washington Beef wishes to

discharge to reaches Waters of the U.S.

The purpose of the reconnaissance was to determine if the Spencer Lateral, which is operated and controlled by the Wapato Irrigation Project (WIP), reaches Waters of the U.S. I made my determination by walking/driving the Spencer Lateral with three people from the WIP. The three people I walked with were Tyrone Pierre, Allen Frank, and Elizabeth. After making the walk I determined that the Spencer Lateral can reach Waters of the U.S. in two locations and in fact did reach Waters of the U.S. in one location during visit.

The Spencer Lateral has the potential to reach Waters of the U.S. at two locations. The first location is at a gate in which an employee of the WIP can open and the flow would be diverted to the Wannity Slough (Photo # 1 shows the gate, and Photo 3 shows the Wannity Slough), via a ditch (Photo # 2). The Wannity Slough flows to the Yakima River. This gate was not open at the time of the inspection (Photo # 1), however, from conversations with a member of the WIP I found out that during the winter months the gate is open, which provides the potential for the Spencer Lateral to reach the Wannity Slough during those months (typically October 15 through March). The second location in which the Spencer Lateral has the potential

to reach Waters of the U.S. is another gate that can be opened up by an employee of the WIP. The flow from the gate would divert Spencer Lateral flow to Lateral 4. Lateral 4 flows to the Wannity Slough. This gate was not open at the time of the inspection (Photo # 4).

The location in which I observed water from the Spencer Lateral reaching Waters of the U.S. was at the very end of the Spencer Lateral in which any water left from the Spencer Lateral will drain to the Harris Drain, or Sub Drain 35. I observed water flowing from the Spencer Lateral to the Harris Drain, or Sub Drain 35. Harris Drain or Sub Drain 35 flows to the Yakima River (refer to Photo # 5). Refer also to the map attached, and the blow up of the map with a cut out of the section where water from the Spencer Lateral reached the Harris Drain or Sub Drain 35 on the day of the inspection.

## Photo Documentation Taken by Rob Grandinetti 7/6/2005



Photo 1: Shows the drain that can be opened to let the Spencer Lateral flow back to the Wannity Slough. Note the gate is closed, however, employees of the WIP state this gate is typically left open in the winter months.

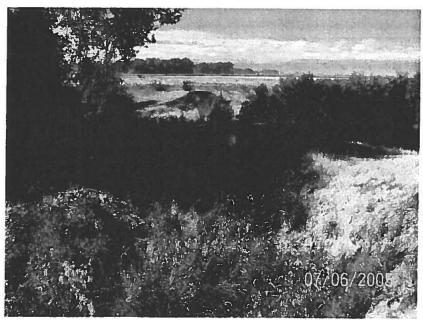


Photo 2: Spencer Lateral (when the gate in Photo 1 is open) would flow this direction to the Wannity Slough

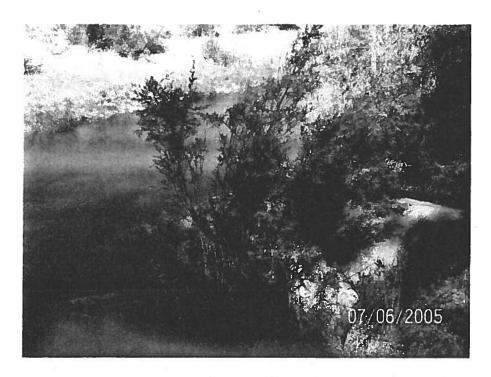


Photo 3: Pictured is the Wannity Slough with the pipe that that would direct Spencer Lateral water from pictures 1 and 2. There was no water flowing from this pipe at the time of the inspection.



Photo 4: Shows the Spencer Lateral with a gate and a pipe that leads to Lateral 4. Note the gate is closed.

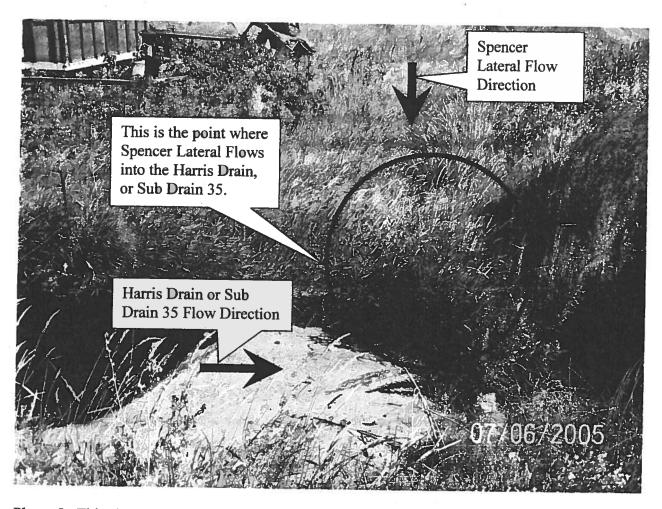
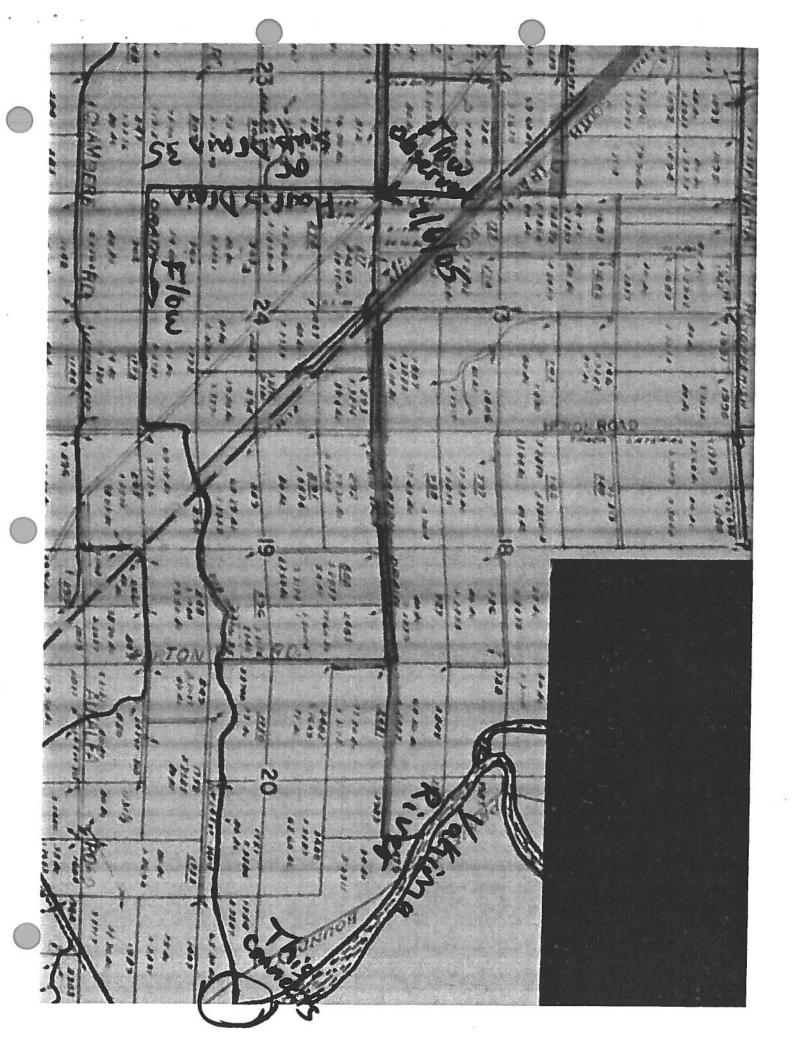


Photo 5: This shows the connection of the Spencer Lateral with the Harris Drain or Sub Drain 35. The picture is not clear, but I did observe flow from the Spencer Lateral to the Harris Drain or Sub Drain. At the top of the circle you can see that there is water in the grass and weeds.

## ATTACHMENT A

Blow up of the Location where the Spencer Lateral reached the Harris Drain or Sub Drain 35 on 7/6/2005



## ATTACHMENT B

Large Map of the Wapato Irrigation Project Canals